

November 19th, 2019

Senator Roger Roth Room 220 South State Capitol Madison, WI 53707

Representative Robin Vos Room 217 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53707

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Employee Relations,

As you consider the proposed 2019-2021 State of Wisconsin Compensation Plan that is before the committee, we ask that you expediently approve the provisions related to compensation for employees of the Department of Corrections.

Our Senate and Assembly districts represent a large portion of the correctional institutions in the state of Wisconsin. Within these institutions, hard working men and women work daily to ensure the safety of our communities and rehabilitation of our inmates. They provide a vital service to our communities and deserve to be fairly compensated for their challenging jobs.

The 2019-2021 State Budget promised the Department of Corrections' employees meaningful pay increases to retain current staff and recruit new hires. The proposed compensation plan includes a length of service pay progression scale, two 2% raises, length of service retention bonuses, and market wage adjustments. The plan also increases pay for Psychiatric Care Technicians and Certified Nursing Assistants at Department of Corrections' facilities.

The pay increases included in the 2019-2021 State of Wisconsin Compensation Plan are vital for the continued safety and welfare of Department of Corrections' employees and inmates. We feel strongly that the Joint Committee on Employment Relations should approve these provisions in a timely manner in order to provide certainty to current and potential employees.

Sincerely,

Senator Dan Feyen

Representative Jeremy Thiesfeldt

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Senator Luther Olsen	Representative Michael Schraa
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Senator Howard Marklein	Representative Jon Plumer
Senator Van Wanggaard	Representative Travis Tranel
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Senator Kathy Bernier	Representative Samantha Kerkman
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Senator Robert Cowles	Representative Robert Wittke
	Representative Jesse James
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	Representative David Steffen

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